

DEPARTMENT REPORT DECEMBER, 2015

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Health Director is coordinating state legislative activities for the Department and the Mayor's Office. The Mayor's Office Legislative Review Team will meet weekly during the legislative session. The Team held their initial meeting and training session on December 17th. The 2016 Legislative Session begins on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

The Health Director, Information & Fiscal Manager and Business Office Manager are holding preliminary budget meetings with each Division Manager. The 2016-2018 budget will be submitted to the Mayor's Office in March, 2016.

The Health Director is serving on the Selection & Negotiating Committees for the architectural and engineering plans for a permanent Hazardous Waste facility. The Selection Committee will review the two proposals that were received for the plans for the facility.

The Health Director and the Community Health Services Manager met with the Lutheran Family Services Director regarding the Health 360 Project.

The Department hosted a celebration commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Household Hazardous Waste Collections.

December Employee of the Month – Adam Rhoads – Environmental Public Health Division

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Stats

	Sep 13- Nov 13	Sep 14- Nov 14	Sep 15- Nov 15
Pet Licenses Sold	15119	14716	15485
Cases Dispatched	6160	6166	5867
Investigation	6592	6680	6396
Animals Impounded			
Dogs	419	389	396
Cats	398	376	351
Court Citations Issued	112	82	113
Warnings/Defects Issued	4493	4202	3869

Bite Cases Reported	112	139	116
Attack Cases Reported	9	16	11
Dogs Declared Pot. Dangerous	20	18	23
Dangerous Dogs	4	7	7
Animal Neglect Investigations	119	146	139
Injured Animal Rescue	193	213	234
Wildlife Removal	91	117	148
Dead Animal Pickup	479	559	540
Lost and Found Reports	557	624	589
Phone Calls	11092	11274	12843
Average Response Time (in mins)	20	14	27

Animal Control staff are preparing policies and procedures for the new Power DMS system. Animal Control has approximately 50 policies that are being reviewed and will become part of the new data management system.

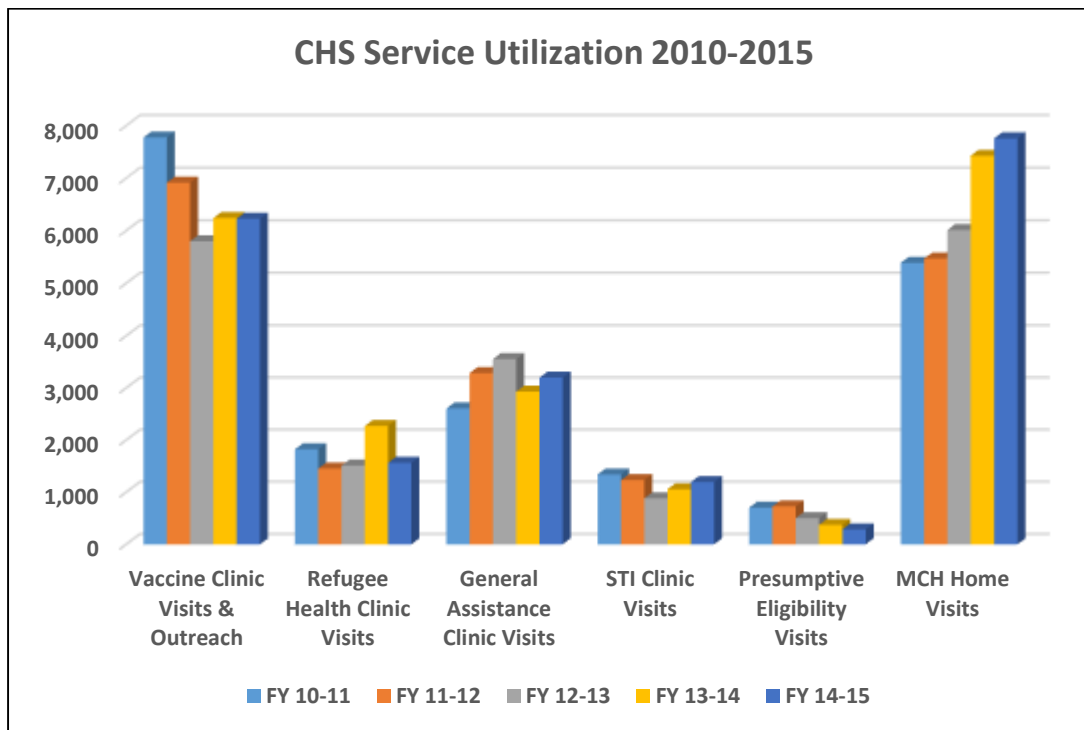
Increasing the number of pet license sales continues to be a priority for Animal Control. New strategies are being considered that would help increase pet license sales and revenue.

Animal Control officers assisted the Lincoln Police Department with a recent animal cruelty case that involved a domestic cat that was injured from being shot with blow darts. The cat will recover but will likely be blind in one eye. No one has been charged as of December 22nd.

Staff are reviewing the recent workforce development survey results and internal training priorities for 2016. Staff are going over performance indicators for the upcoming budget.

Animal Control staff have been working on the new Shelter Pro software system that will eventually replace the current mainframe dispatch system. The conversion from the current system to the new system will be implemented during 2016.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES



Health Care Marketplace Outreach

Project indicator: Increase the number of low-income, uninsured, and under-insured individuals connected to a medical home in Lancaster County to 20%.

Open enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace began November 1, 2015 and ends January 31, 2016. Twenty three staff in CHS completed the required national and local training to become a Certified Application Counselor (CACs) this year. The role of a CAC is to help the uninsured understand their health coverage options, apply for financial help with coverage, and enroll in private health plans through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

CACs in the division assist clients and families within their existing caseloads and LLCHD is listed in several community resource guides as an organization which has “in-person assistors” willing to help. Individuals can call 402-441-8065, our Information and Referral Line, for more information or to make an appointment.

CACs in the division participated in 15 outreach events thus far including biweekly outreach at Clinic With a Heart, and outreach at the Thanksgiving and Toy Giveaways at the Center for People in Need, and the Thankful for Coverage Event sponsored by Enroll NE. CACs have connected with 184 people in outreach activities to date.

DENTAL HEALTH & NUTRITION

WIC

Caseload (Participation)

Total	3702
Main	2828
Cornhusker Clinic	874
%Enrolled with Benefits	82.07%

	LLCHD	State of Nebraska
Total Women	881 (23.7%)	8563 (22.93%)
Total Children	1983 (53.5%)	19706 (52.7%)
Total Infants	838 (22.6%)	9072 (24.2%)
Infants Receiving Breastmilk	274 (32.06%)	2594 (28.5%)
Infants Exclusive Breastmilk	101 (12.05%)	997 (10.9%)

Mentoring:

(Number and school)

Students	1-UNL; 2 Nursing SECC
Interns	
Volunteers	1 UNL- RD
LMEP Residents	2 LMEP Resident

WIC November caseload was 3702. With 18 clinic days in November due to the Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving Holidays, WIC averaged 205.66 clients per day. This is the highest average number of clients seen per day since November 2014.

Dental Health

Total number of clients served during all clinic hours (unduplicated count): 450

-Total number of patient encounters (duplicated client count): 552

-Total number of patient visits (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 789

-Total number of Racial/Ethnic and other White Non-English speaking patients (Arabic, Farsi, Kurdish, Russian): 350 (78%)

-Total number of children served: 281 (62%)

-Total number of clients enrolled in Medicaid: 302 (67%)

-Total number of clients that identified another language as their primary language: 233 (52%)
Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Farsi, French, Karen, Kurdish, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Japanese, Sign Language, Other.

- Clients served during **Thursday evening hours** (unduplicated count): 60
- Client encounters during Thursday evening hours (duplicated client count): 61
- Patient visits during Thursday evening hours (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 94
- Racial/Ethnic and other White Non-English speaking patients (Arabic, Kurdish) during Thursday evening hours: 47 (78%)
- Children served during Thursday evening hours: 57 (95%)
- Patients enrolled in Medicaid during Thursday evening hours: 45 (75%)
- Total number of clients that identified another language as their primary language: 33 (55%)
Arabic, Karen, Kurdish, Spanish, Other.

Outreach Activities: 353 children screened in school based activities.

- School based dental screening at Eastridge Elementary – 40
- School based dental screening at Everett Elementary School – 313

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Child Care Health Consultation Services

LLCHD's Child Care Health Consultation Services protect the health of children, their families and our community by preventing communicable disease outbreaks that originate in child care settings. Many child care centers lack adequate health and safety practices, especially those sites that serve low income or racial/ethnic minority families. Improving training for staff, updating policies, and obtaining input from skilled health professionals decreases the incidence of disease and improves health and safety in child care centers. In the winter of 2014-15, the Lincoln community experienced a community-wide outbreak of pertussis, first in the schools, then

followed by multiple cases in 13 child care centers. The LLCHD Child Care Health Consultant mailed information about pertussis and the outbreak to all center directors. While LLCHD staff does not typically do onsite consultation for pertussis, staff did an onsite assessment to assist one facility and gained information about classroom and napping arrangements, along with cleaning protocols. This proactive approach allowed us to make better recommendations and potentially resulted in fewer cases in the community.



The Lincoln Municipal Code 8.14 Child Care Programs requires health and safety training for child care center staff every two years. The two hour training includes health information such as illness prevention and exclusion, diapering, hand washing, and food safety (541 child care staff attended the Health and Safety Training this year). A new training was developed around national news stories concerning health and safety issues in child care. Fourteen local centers shared

their “top-tips” to keep the children healthy and safe in their care and allowed photos of their best practices to be shared with training participants.

LLCHD’s Child Care Health Consultant performs on-site assessments of child care center environments and program operations, in addition to assisting directors in the development and implementation of improvement plans. The Child Care Health and Safety Consultation visits incorporate policy and procedures needed by management with classroom evaluations of health



and safety practices (*56 centers received onsite consultation visits*).

References are provided for professional resources (e.g., Caring for Our Children,

Environmental Rating Scales for infants and preschoolers, NE DHHS Title 391.3, LMC 8.14) to aid directors in developing best practices in their centers. Six directors (*3 new and 3 expanding*) requested guidance on facility

design and policies prior to licensing. A coaching model is used to increase the individual’s “buy-in” in making behavior changes (*4441 children and 998 staff were reached through consultation*). Unique solutions to health and safety barriers are identified and implemented. Over the past year Illness Exclusion was the most requested policy followed by Safe Environments and Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting and Medication Administration and Storage. (*231 requests for information and 90 onsite visits to Child Care Centers*).

A special Health and Safety Train the Trainer was provided to 19 staff in northeast Nebraska to assist directors outside of Lincoln-Lancaster County with health and safety policies. A total of 72 Lincoln centers have received and been trained on the “Bleach Safety Kit” developed to simplify mixing bleach disinfectant and sanitizer solutions. This on-site safe bleach outreach has resulted in an increase in facilities utilizing the consultation program and open communication when dealing with the spread of communicable diseases. Based on the well-received “Bleach Safety Kit”, body fluid clean-up kits, affectionately known as the “Barf Buckets”, were designed and developed for reducing the spread of Norovirus outbreaks in the child care setting. A partnership was formed with the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children to utilize grant funds to develop the body fluid kits.



HEALTH DATA & EVALUATION

The focus of the Health Data & Evaluation Division’s community health assessment is now on getting comments on the draft of the Community Health Profile as it has been drafted and sent to the participants in the MAPP process for their review and comment. Each of the Board members should have also received the link, which is <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/data/pdf/CommunityHealthProfile.pdf>. Once the profile has been approved it will be posted on the Department’s website and we will solicit feedback from the general public.

In soliciting feedback, there’s a survey on the website for them to provide feedback about MAPP of any of the process—see <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2C27WNT>. The CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan) committees have all revised the objectives and timelines for each of the four priority areas—access to care, behavioral health, chronic disease and injury prevention. In addition to the revisions in objectives, any strategies that the committees felt needed to be changed were also addressed. The CHIP document will be sent the MAPP group after the Community Health Profile is finalized. If anyone has any comments they should feel free to contact Steve Frederick at 402-441-6271 or via e-mail at sfrederick@lincoln.ne.gov.

Our Communicable Disease Supervisor, Tim Timmons, posts the flu activity report weekly on the Health Department’s website (<http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/data/>) where you will find a narrative Weekly Flu Summary and also the Weekly Flu Graphs based on reports from provider

practices, hospital inpatient admissions for flu-like illness, and school absences for flu-like illness. Tim is also sending tweets via Twitter with the link to the weekly report.

As of now, flu activity remains low in Lincoln and Lancaster County and the state. Nationally, flu activity has increased slightly and the few confirmed flu cases are mostly of a type (H3N2) that is matched to this year's flu vaccine. Remember that each flu season is different, but flu activity typically peaks in February and the season lasts into May in many years so it is not too late to get your flu vaccination.

Our Epidemiology staff have been busy working on new applications for monitoring the Department's performance indicator's and the QI efforts. In the latter case, they are working closely with Jesse Davy, the QI Coordinator. We are also working the Data Committee of PHAN (Public Health Association of Nebraska) and the Nebraska Department of Health to improve access to on-line health data for all local health departments. Birth data is already available to each local health department, and the next data to be added will be death data for each health district.

HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTREACH

Chronic Disease Prevention

Staff continues to work with Planning staff and other City Department staff with bike law updates for the City, N street protected bikeway promotion, bike share program development, and Share the Road campaign, etc.

Filming continues on an updated video on how to use the soon to be opened N Street Cycle Track. Over 20 bicyclists volunteered their time over several days to demonstrate the correct way to maneuver the cycle track including how the traffic lights will work, passing other cyclists, and how to enter and exit the track. Additional filming is being completed and edited on what motorists will need to know to safely work with the system.

Following are links to educational videos and PSAs to help motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists navigate the N Street Cycle Track:

PSA 1 (General Information) <https://youtu.be/5KzWpd4GOGc>

PSA 2 (Green Zones) <https://youtu.be/b2Q5kFlwS5s>

PSA 3 (Safety) <https://youtu.be/-6yYeMH2Q6A>

N Street Education Video <https://youtu.be/boLGfzXLEe4>

A news conference was held on December 17th to announce the opening of the N Street Cycle Track and to provide motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists with information on the use of the lights, green bike boxes, and other components of the Cycle Track. Mayor Chris Beutler; Great Plains Trails Network president, Roger Hirsch; and Lonnie Burklund from the City's Public

Works Department were the featured speakers. A 'ribbon-cutting' and more expansive news conference on the Cycle Track will be held in the spring.

Injury Prevention

Staff coordinated a car seat check event on Thursday, November 19th. Eight certified child passenger safety technicians checked 19 car seats. Two seats were provided to families in need. Anderson Ford, Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, Healthy Families America, and Safe Kids Lincoln Lancaster County sponsored this event.

Staff coordinated a SKLLC Bike/Pedestrian Safety Task Force meeting. The primary purpose was the NE Safe Kids mini grant. Funds are being used to create 3 videos and PSAs on pedestrian safety, drop off and pick up practices at LPS elementary schools, and distracted pedestrian risks. These are part of the pedestrian emphasis of the Share The Road Campaign for bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists.

SKLLC Home Safety volunteers and staff presented information on the prevention of TV and furniture tip overs to five Head Start families at Pershing Elementary School, 27 families at Belmont Elementary School, and 6 families at Elliott Elementary School in collaboration with their Head Start teachers. 9 TV straps and 9 furniture straps were provided through a raffle to families. Children, parents, and caregivers received a safety question game that was provided to them by Bryan Health. Parents and caregivers also received educational handouts.

INFORMATION & FISCAL MANAGEMENT

The Health Director, IFM Division Manager and Fiscal Office Supervisor have had preliminary Budget meetings with each of the Division Managers. Each meeting included a review of the Division performance indicators, budgeted and current staffing (both City Council Adopted Budget staff and grant staff), expenditure and revenue history and potential retirements. The Department's Budget Team (IFM Division Manager and Fiscal Office Supervisor) will use the information gathered in these meetings to prepare the initial draft budget. The City Budget Office has provided the initial staff cost information and we are updating the budget system for personnel. Other cost information from the city and budget instructions are expected to come by the middle of January.

The IFM Division Manager and Supervisors are reviewing the Workforce development plan and will be developing a division training plan for the next year.